

A D V I C E

HUMBLY OFFERED TO

THE PRINCE OF WALES.

BY A WELL-MEANING BRITON.

“ Stay but a little, for my cloud of dignity
“ Is held from falling, by so weak a wind
“ That it will quickly drop.”

HENRY IV.

L O N D O N:

PRINTED FOR T. HOOKHAM, NEW BOND-STREET,

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FOR an inferior to address with plain language and honest advice, a Personage, born to rule a potent empire, is a trespass against decorum, which would be inadmissible in any other country than Great Britain. And even here, nothing but a vigorous exertion of that good sense which every one allows to the Prince of Wales, will tempt his Royal Highness to cast his eyes over these uncourtly sheets. Should he condescend so far as to peruse them with attention, he will find in them

the sentiments of one who respects his Royal Highness as his future Sovereign, who honours him for his munificence, his humanity, and his attainments; nay, even for that very steadiness of friendship, which is too likely to introduce dissention and want of confidence to a cabinet, where unity, firmness, and popularity have lately gone hand in hand, and have effected more for the honor of Britain, than the most sanguine politicians could, a few years past, have deemed possible.

All those who approach the person of a Prince, may be justly suspected of joining in a league to keep the truth from his eyes. He must have more than common penetration,

tion, if he avoid the snares which are laid to entrap his judgment. False glosses are thrown on every thing. He is taught to consider the junto about him as the only persons capable of transacting important business, and to look upon their adversaries as personal enemies to himself. Such a one, may certainly plead hereafter, in excuse for any mistaken prepossessions, the almost insuperable difficulty of seeing thro' his own eyes, while thus surrounded by interested advisers. But should he, in the mean time, have forfeited his popularity, should he have lost that good credit which every nation is ready to allow to an elegant, accomplished young Prince, at his setting out in the path of government?

should he, although glowing with the tendereſt affection for his royal parents, gain among his people the epithet of Undutiful! of Unnatural! How could his advisers ever make him amends for the good name of which they had robbed him, for the esteem of his ſubjects, of which they had deprived him?

Let us ſuppoſe for a moment, that every prejudice which his Royal Highneſs may entertain againſt the preſent Miſter, be juſt, that his meaſures have been wrong, and that the good of the community is equal- ly interested with the advantages of his Royal Highneſs's friends, in his diſmifſion, what would *policy*, when unawed by a crew of hun-
gry

gry expectants, urge on the occa-
 sion? " It is true that your Royal
 Highness's father has made a bad
 choice of a Minister, but still, as
 it is his choice, and he may re-
 cover his senses, you must not yet
 dismiss him. Wait a few months.
 You will gain strength every day
 of your father's illness. Cool con-
 sideration will bring over to your
 party all those senators who think
 their own interest worth cultiva-
 tion, and probably half a year
 will put it in your power to pro-
 vide, amply, for your friends, to
 depress those whom you dislike,
 and to give the reins of the state
 to whosoever you shall think most
 fit to hold them. The people,
 too, will perhaps, by that time,

“ in a certain degree, change sides,
“ and you may, consistently with
“ that popularity, which it would
“ pain you to forfeit, attain to the
“ summit of your own wishes, and
“ those of the persons with whom
“ you are connected.

“ The splendor of a court, with
“ a gay young Prince at it's head,
“ will have as incredible effect on
“ the passions of a luxurious, vo-
“ luptuous nation. You will lead
“ the hearts, as well as the fashions;
“ the urbanity and unfeigned be-
“ nevolence of your manners will
“ gain upon every man, and make
“ him your own, unless through
“ rash, ill-judged counsel, you ruin
“ yourself in the opinion of the
“ world,

“ world, and throw in the way of
“ your own steps towards the af-
“ fections of your people, a stumb-
“ ling-block, which, though by a
“ long course of good actions, it
“ may be removed, yet can never
“ be utterly forgotten. Besides, fi-
“ gure to yourself the unutterably
“ dreadful, the fatal consequence
“ which would accrue, should your
“ father recover, of which there is,
“ at least, a probability. Would
“ he not say, and with justice too,
“ that your behaviour had no pa-
“ rallel in history, except among
“ such children as are introduced
“ as examples of misbehaviour ?
“ Would he not look upon the dis-
“ mission of his favourite servant,
“ as of those old friends, whom,
“ on

“ on account of their attachment,
“ he had provided with easy and
“ profitable places, as a personal
“ insult to himself? Could a son
“ who, when his parent had been
“ indisposed even less than three
“ months, had deprived him of all
“ the domestics in whom he had
“ confidence, ever look that parent
“ in the face again; or could that
“ parent be expected ever to look
“ on that son without resent-
“ ment?” (Levisses of old friend)
ob of begaldo Holmid hait yllsui
Thus would *policy* argue, and
thus ought those around his Royal
Highness to reason, if the wretched
greediness of immediate gain, did
not shut their eyes to the ill-advised
measures to which they are courting
their

their too-kind master. But let hope be entertained, that our amiable, and, in other respects, clear-fighted Prince, will weigh the consequence of drawing upon himself the dislike of more than half that nation, which he is destined one day to govern.

Surely he, whose countenance promises every benevolent feeling, will not, with his eyes open, place himself in such a situation that (horrible to conceive!) he may actually find himself obliged to deprecate with terror, the idea of his father's ever returning to the right use of his understanding, lest his just resentment should overwhelm a misguided son with disgrace and hatred.

The

The advice that has been given in the preceding pages, is just as salutary to the interest of those who are like to come into power, as for that of their Royal Patron. It needs but little discernment to see that, at present, a new administration would have a heavy, nay, an impracticable task to perform, if they meant to reverse the measures of Mr. Pitt, in the face of a majority of both Houses. And, if they do *not* mean to reverse them, why hurry so fast into power at the expence of their best friend's filial character and good name? On the other hand, a few months patience will introduce them with some degree of credit to the very stations they aspire after, and without the hazard of rendering their patron unsocial popular,

popular, themselves odious, and their whole administration a scene of controversy with the Parliament, and of invectives from the people. A little patience too would secure them from the peril of losing the affections of that Prince whose favour they seem too prone to abuse. The consequences of their hurrying into office, may otherwise open his eyes to their defects. He will then, with a small exertion of his natural discernment, discover the unpleasant state into which their eagerness after the loaves and fishes will have thrown him. He will see that they have been setting a precedent to his future offspring, which may prove fatal to his own peace, and which may hereafter stimulate a son or a brother

ther of his own, to take advantage of some casual indisposition which may occur to him, in order to overturn all his plans, and exile from his household his most affectionate servants. In consequence of this train of thinking, he may find it his interest to drive from his presence and councils, men, who, to gain their own ends a little the sooner, have not scrupled to set in extreme hazard their master's dearest interests.

One word more, and this honestly-meant counsel shall finish. It is not impossible, nay it has been said, that disgust may have been taken by the Prince of Wales against the popular Minister, on account of some

some supposed (but surely not intended) want of that respect due to the high station of the complainant. To soften this displeasure, let it be remarked, that *integrity* and *franchise* are, in Mr. Pitt, much more shining qualities, than *complaisance* or *attention*. He has gained many adherents by the *former*, which an attention to the *latter* has again driven from his side; and that there now actually exists a formidable party, composed of Members of both Houses of Parliament, the greatest part of whom have been induced to quit his banners, by not having met with that courtesy which their disinterested support had well merited at his hands.

From

From such a Minister, more than decent behaviour can scarce be expected even by a Prince. Yet we find a neighbourly Monarch, eagerly attaching to his service a Necker, whose manners are by no means more gentle, or more polished, than those of the present Minister of Britain. However, let it be res membered, that, in the instance before us, it is not *familiarity*, but is not *friendship*, (which is recommended,) it is merely *sufferance*; and that sufferance not to be extended to a *household servant*, but to one who, by his office, is much more properly a servant of the people than of the reigning power; and that this sufferance is only advised to be *temporary*.

more F I N I S.